

Message Text

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ACTION CU-03

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STATE FOR EUR/SOV, CU/EE; LENINGRAD FOR P&C; USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: OEXC, UR
SUBJ: VISIT TO U.S. OF INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
OFFICIALS

REF: MOSCOW 3040

1. EMBASSY'S ORIGINAL DIRECT APPROACH TO INSTITUTE REGARDING APPOINTMENT SUGGESTED REFTEL WAS CHNNELED TO MFA IN MANNER SIMILAR TO EARLIER EXPERIENCE WITH INSTITUTE (SEE BELOW). MFA OBTAINED COURTEOUS REPLY MARCH ELEVE INDICATING APPOINTMENT "NOT NECESSARY" BUT RECTOR DID HAVE REQUEST FOR EMBASSY ASSISTANCE IN COMMUNICATING PROGRAM CHANGE.

2. REQUEST DEALS WITH ORDER OF STOPS ON SCHEDULE, WHICH NOW IS, ACCORDING TO RECTOR: BOSTON/CAMBRIDGE, PITTSBURGH, NEW YORK, PRINCETON, AND WEST COAST, FOR PERIOD OF SIX WEEKS. RECTOR UNCERTAIN HE CAN STAY FOR ENTIRE PERIOD AND WISHES TO VISIT WEST COAST FIRST SO HE WILL NOT MISS STOPS IN WHICH HE IS MOST INTERESTED. LOS ANGELES NOW PLANNED APRIL SEVENTEEN - TWENTY-FOUR FOR SEVEN DAYS AND THEN AND THEN SAN FRANCISCO FOR FOUR DAYS, INCLUDING VISIT TO INSTITUTE IN MONTERREY (NOT NAMED) WHICH IS "CLOSE TO HIS OWN SUBJECT." THIS PORTION OF TRIP HE
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PREFERS TO DO AT BEGINNING. GROUP PLANNING TO DEPART

MARCH TWENTY-FOUR OR TWENTY-FIVE, RETURNING TO MOSCOW IN EARLY MAY.

3. FOR DEPARTMENT'S BACKGROUND, EMBASSY IN 1975 ATTEMPTED TO INTEREST INSTITUTE IN LECTURES BY PROMINENT POLITICAL SCIENTIST HERE AS AMERICAN SPECIALIST AND BY US CONGRESSMAN FOR WHOM WE WERE ARRANGING TALKS AS PART OF "CONGRESS AND FOREIGN POLICY" SERIES. INSTITUTE HAD REFERRED REQUESTS TO MFA WHICH LATER TOLD US INSTITUTE COULD NOT SCHEDULE LECTURES " BECAUSE STUDENT HAD NOT REQUESTED THEM."

4. SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE SUGGESTION FOR INSTITUTE APPOINTMENT TO DISCUSS TRIP TO US WAS MADE, EMBASSY HAD PROPOSED TO INSTITUTE LECTURE BY JONATHAN MOORE, DIRECTOR, KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT AT HARVARD, WHO WILL BE SPEAKING UNDER EMBASSY AUSPICES IN LATE MARCH. BOTH THIS REQUEST AND APPOINTMENT REQUEST WERE REFERRED O MFA.

5. RECTOR SAID THIS TIME, VIA MFA, THAT INDEED HE WAS INTERESTED IN INVITING TO INSTITUTE PROMINENT EXPERTS "IN EMBASSY SPEAKER SERIES," BUT THAT HE FELT HE MUST BE THERE PERSONALLY WHEN THEY WERE AT INSTITUTE, "TO WELCOME THEM." THEREFORE JONATHAN MORE COULD NOT BE INVITED, SINCE RECTOR WOULD BE AWAY, BUT HE ASKED THAT INSTITUTE BE INFORMED OF FUTURE SPEAKERS SCHEDULED AFTER HIS RETURN FROM US. MFA CONTACT SUGGESTED RECTOR WISHED TO BECOME MORE FAMILIAR WITH AMERICAN SCHOLARLY COMMUNITY IN FOREIGN RELTIONS AND PERHAPS ALSO INVITE SOME PERSONS HE WOULD MEET IN US.

6. COMMENT: INVIEW OF RESPONSE, EMBASSY DID NOT FEEL IT WAS APPROPRIATE TO PRESS FURTHER FOR PRE-DEPARTURE APPOINTMENT, BUT WILL ARRANGE POST-RETURN CALL AND/OR SOCIAL EVENT. AS DEPT AWARE, EMBASSY SPEAKER SERIES FOR THE MOST PART HAS BEEN ORGANIZED OUTSIDE FORMAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT ON THEORY THAT MAJOR STATES CONDUCTING NORMAL RELATIONS ENCOURAGE REGULAR COMMUNICATIONS ON SIGNIFICANT ISSUES IN THIS AND OTHER WAYS. MFA OFFICIALS WITH WHOM WE HAVE DISCUSSED PROGRAM IN PAST (PRIMARILY IN CULTURAL DIVISION) HAVE TAKEN SOMEWHAT PUZZLED BUT NON-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERFERING STANCE. ABOVE RESPONSE (FROM USA DIVISION) IS FIRST INDICATION WE HAVE HAD, ASIDE FROM VISA APPROVALS, THAT MFA VIEWS PROGRAM AS MORE OR LESS NORMAL. DEPT WILL RECALL VISA PROBLEMS EARLIER IN PROGRAM. INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS HAS BEEN AMONG TMORE DIFFICULT INSTITUTES TO APPROACH, AND RECTOR'S MORE OPEN ATTITUDE, IF CARRIED OUT, IS SIGNIFICANT CHANGE. DEPT'S FACILITATION OF SUCCESSFUL US VISIT BY RECTOR AND COLLEAGUES SHOULD BE

MOST HELPFUL IN IMPROVING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN INSTITUTE
AND US SCHOLARLY COMMUNITY.
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